

1888.

The year 1888 promises to be a year of splendid political developments, one and all redounding to the glory and triumph of a

UNITED DEMOCRACY.

In the Front Line will be found

THE SUN,

Fresh from its magnificent victory over the combined fees of Democracy in its own State, true to its convictions, truthful before all else, and fearless in the cause of truth and right.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1888.

Spurn the Bribe!

Senator VEST showed even more than his accustomed force and clearness in his speech against the BLAIR Education bill. Especially effective was his appeal to the Southern Senators to stand by their principles, and not to be seduced by the bribes offered to the States by BLAIR's bill to take a long step forward in the fatal path to centralization. With what consistency can Southern Dem-

ocrats oppose futuremeasures for increasing the power of the central Government at the expense of the power of initiative and the autonomy of the several States, if they put themselves on record as favoring the BLAIR bill? The Republicans could well afford to pay out of their party funds the seventyseven millions which this paternal measure proposes to scatter among the States. It would be worth more than that to the Republicans to have the Democratic party committed to the support of a measure totally at variance with the spirit, principle, and practice of Democracy.

If Democrate are willing to go as far as the Republicans in support of legislation framed in accordance with the Constitution stretching theories of the latter, why should there be two parties?

More than once before this Democrats in Congress have shown too much of a disposition to sell their Democratic birthright for a mess of pottage. They have been ready to allow Congress to appropriate money for objects which, however worthy, should have been left to private enterprise or charity, or to the discretion of individual States. But there is as yet no such bad Democratic precedent as would be the passage of the BLAIR bill through Congress by the help of Democratic votes. Even Mr. CLEVELAND'S veto, which would doubtless smash the BLAIR bill should it pass both Houses, could not alter the Democratic record in the matter or weaken the force of the immense concession which would have been made by the Democrats to Federalistic Republican ideas. It was currently reported that some Democratic members of the Senate voted for the BLAIR bill in the Forty-ninth Congress, not because they believed in its principle, but because they wished to get the credit with their constituents of supporting an apparent proposition to help education in their States; and they consoled themselves with the reflection that the President would veto the bill. Similar reasoning may be used by

members of the House. We trust, however, that no Democrat in Congress will skulk behind such a cowardly defence, nor try to shift their responsibility for legislation upon the broad shoulders of the President. The BLAIR bill is a bribe to Democrats to induce them to abandon Democratic principles

Spurn the bribe!

Local Government for England.

It now seems settled that the first important measure laid before Parliament on its reassembling will be a Local Government bill, and there is a deepening impression that the fortunes of the Ministry may turn on it. As a matter of course, Gladstonians and Parnellites will vote against it, because Ireland is to be excluded from the privileges conferred. What is more alarming the difficulty of so defining the new grants and franchises as to avoid exasperating the old-fashioned Tories, while at the same time meeting the expectations of Liberal Dissidents. The embarrassment resulting from the nature of the task will be aggravated by the tactics which, it is understood, the opposition will adopt. The Parnellites, though certain to oppose the bill on a division, are expected to refuse to join in the debate on the ground of the offensive discrimination against Ireland. They will thus leave the Gladstonians free to confine their assaults to those features of the measure which excite irritation and dissension in the ranks of the coalition.

Any one who during the last month has run over the columns of the London Standard on the one hand, and the less progressive Tory organs on the other, can form some notion of the difference between the interests and wishes of the English landed gentry and the Tory-Democratic element of the urban population. Naturally, country gentlemen are perfectly satisfied with the present system of local government which leaves them masters of the agricultural districts, and, indirectly, through the ground rents on their suburban property and the influence derivable from their patronage, enables them to exert a large measure of control over the smaller boroughs. They know that certain concessions must be made to demands that have of late years grown clamorous-especially as many Unionists owe their seats to a promise of acquiescence-but they would desire to change the existing state of things as slightly as possible, and they not unreasonthly expect a minimum of alteration from a Tory Government.

But the truth is that Lord SALISBURY'S Government, although Tory in name and composition, is not so in fact, because it has not a Tory majority behind it. The position which it occupies is in that respect analogous to that of the DERBY-DISRAELI Ministry of 1866-67. The Tories of that will be remembered, expected the DISRARLI Reform bill to be a sham, and such the first draft submitted to the House of Commons no doubt was. But the Ministers soon saw that they could not pass any bill at all, unless it involved a substantial extension of the suffrage, and accordingly they took what Lord DEBBY describes as their "leap in the dark." Lord SALISBURY sees that he, too, must confront a risk of the same kind, that local government reform can be deferred no longer, and that a mere pretence of reform, even if Par-

liament would sanction it, would irreparably estrange the urban constituencies and thus defeat him at the next general election.

Thus we see that, as regards the scope and purport of this bill, which presently will be the pivot of debate, Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL and Mr. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, although not in the Cabinet, have apparently exercised more influence than the united representatives of the landed interest. It is their programme, as outlined at Dartford and Birmingham, which has, if we may trust the Standard, received the Premier's endorsement, and will be shortly laid before the House of Commons. That a bill of this kind will be heartily supported by Liberal Dissidents and Tory Democrats may be taken for granted. But is it, therefore, sure to pass? We know what happened to the Irish Land bill last session-how it was shorn by the landlords in their stronghold, the upper House, of features which Mr. CHAMBERLAIN had pronounced important, but to whose sacrifice, nevertheless, the Ministry assented. Now, English landowners in the House of Lords on the one hand, and Dissident Radicals and Tory Democrat in the Commons on the other, are a hundred fold more irreconcilably divided on the ques-Sunday, 16 and 20 pages, - - 1 50 tions connected with English local government than they were as to the details of an Irish measure. That is why Lord SALIS-BURY will find it so hard to frame a bill upon which both Houses of Parliament will agree.

The New York Times Preparing to Sup-

port Governor Hill for President. Mr. George Jones and the New York Times are getting ready to support DAVID BENNETT HILL for President.

We base this assertion upon the following declaration printed conspicuously by Mr. GEORGE JONES yesterday in the Times:

"Gov. Hitt. as an aspirant for the Presidential nomi

Do you think that the conclusion which we iraw from the appearance at this time of this significant paragraph is unwarranted. or that it involves too violent a wreaching of the machinery of logic? If that is so, it is because you do not understand the New York Times, or know Mr. George Jones

Read again and more carefully what the Times has to say about Governor HILL as a candidate for the Democratic nomination: "Governor Hill, as an aspirant for the Presidentia nomination, is simply too ridiculous to be taken seri-

Compare this, word by word, with what the Times said just four years ago concerning Governor CLEVELAND as a candidate for the Democratic nomination:

"Nothing could be more preposterous than a no ion to the Presidency of Governor CLEVELAND.

In the case of Governor HILL, it is "simply too ridiculous." In the case of Governor CLEVELAND, "nothing could be more preposterous.' But the Times accuses Governor HILL of

conspiring with certain eminent Democrats to promote his political fortunes, and adds the insinuation that he is likewise intriguing with members of the Republican party: "Perhaps we ought to add to this catalogue of co

umor says, are negotiating a 'deal' with Governor Hua ect to the Quarantine establishment of the por Nearly four years ago the New York Times was accusing Governor CLEVELAND of intriguing with Republican leaders to advance

his political fortunes: "The Governor [CLEVELAND] is said to have been en gaged in an effort to make a deal with certain Repullican Senatora, which failed because the parties were usable to agree upon a distribution of the spolls."

And again, a little later in the season:

"He has gained nothing by trying to make a deal, but The Times lays the foundation of its

support of Governor HILL for President by expressing a very contemptuous opinion of his character and ability. But it expressed an equally contemptuous opinion of the character and ability of Governor HILL'S predecessor during the months immediately preceding the last National Democratic Convention. No language could be harsher. more unfair, more abominable, than that through which the New York Tim its course toward the support of Mr. CLEVE-LAND for President. It called him "a parochial statesman." It sneered at "his record as a political reformer." It spoke of one of his official acts as "about the cheapest and sourviest trick even of this very lowpriced statesman." It accused him of being a demagogue, and held up to scorn his "meaningless utterances on the subject of contract labor." It charged him with an attempt to "swindle" certain employees of the State out of money honestly due them for work done for the State. It exhibited him as the audacious tool of political corruptionists: and all this was in the few months immediately preceding Mr. CLEVELAND's nomination for President, for which office it supported him during the canvass.

That is why we assume that the Times is now preparing to support Governor HILL. as it supported Governor CLEVELAND after first declaring his candidacy preposterous and assailing him with the whole vocabulary of vilification. It wronged and slandered Mr. CLEVELAND just as it is now wronging and slandering Mr. HILL.

To those who do not understand the peculiar methods by which the Times reaches an object in view, or who do not know Mr. GEORGE JONES, it may seem strange that in the present attitude of that newspaper toward the Governor we should find unmistakable evidence of its intention to support and praise him a little later on. But such is the case; and we refer all doubters to the files of the New York Times, say from January, 1884, to June of the same year.

The Times will not venture to discuss, for the information of its own readers, its present attitude toward Governor HILL in the light of its course toward Governor CLEVE-LAND at this time four years ago. Nor does the Times dare to invite attention to the fact that it is wronging and slandering Governor HILL now, just as in the early months of 1884 it wronged and slandered Governor CLEVELAND.

The Prospects of Free Trade. We transfer to our columns this morning from the Chicago Tribune a very suggestive interview with the Hon. FRANK HURD of Ohio. Mr. HURD, as everybody knows, is one of the most pronounced and uncompro mising advocates of free trade in this country; and, although he has been beaten himself in his own district as a candidate for Congress, he is still confident that on the free trade issue the country can be carried, and protection, or, as he calls it, reciprocal

rapine, put down forever. The most striking part of Mr. Hunp's statement is that in which he represents President CLEVELAND as having become a thorough free trader, and as having taken up a decisive and final position against the system of protection for American industries through the enactment of discriminating

customs duties. We think Mr. HURD exaggerates the pur pose of Mr. CLEVELAND on this question. It is true that in his message at the opening of Congress the President may have seemed

ready to justify the free traders, when he entered into his argument in favor of maintaining at their present figures all the internal revenue taxes; but, on the other hand, it must not be forgotten that he expressly disclaimed in his message any willingness to break down those safeguards of American industry which the Democratic platform of 1884 had undertaken to maintain. Moreover, we believe he has since expressed his willingness to surrender some part of the internal taxation in the interest of Democratic unity. Accordingly it is now understood that Mr. CLEVELAND decidedly means to stand by the platform, and not to engage in anything like crusade looking toward the advancement

of a free trade policy. By way of giving a show to the whole free trade argument we make room for Mr. HURD's reasoning in favor of continuing to tax the domestic production of tobacco, and in favor of abelishing the duty on wool. It is also an impressive statement which he makes when he says that, taking everything into consideration, the wages of the American laborer are already no better than those of the European laborer, although it is commonly believed and represented that the one is much better off than the other.

Like the earnest free trader that he is, Mr. HURD is confident that the Presidential election of this year will be fought out upon that issue: but if the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives should agree upon a measure which will remove the surplus without breaking down the principle of protection, what opportunity will there remain for making the controversy of free trade against protection the turning point of the campaign? We fear that Mr. HURD is doomed to be disappointed in this matter, as he has already been in some others.

Good Appointments in Brooklyn.

The Mayor of Brooklyn completed his municipal Cabinet vesterday by appointing JOHN P. ADAMS to be Commissioner of City Works; JAMES D. BELL, Police Commissioner; JOHN GRIFFIN, Health Commissioner, and ALDEN S. SWAN. Collector of Taxes and Assessments. Mayor CHAPIN also reappointed Fire Commissioner Ennis. On the whole this is an excellent set of appointments.

Mr. ADAMS, the new Commissioner of City Works, is a practising lawyer well known in this city. For several years he has been Chairman of the Democratic General Committee of Kings County. In his profession as well as in his party he has always maintained a high character as an upright and honorable man, and the administrative ability which he has shown as the presiding head of the Democratic organization in Brooklyn indicates that he possesses many qualities of a good municipal officer.

Mr. BELL is the active young Democrat who gave the Hon. STEPHEN V. WHITE such a lively race for his seat in Congress. He belongs to one of the best-known law firms in Brooklyn, and has served with credit in the Kings County Board of Supervisors. He was a Union soldier in the civil war, and his military experience ought to be of advantage to him as the head of the police force. W have no doubt he will make a clear-headed, vigorous, and efficient Police Commissioner.

Dr. GRIFFIN, who has been placed at the head of the Health Department, is a physician in extensive practice, who has acquired a thorough acquaintance with municipal affairs in many of their aspects through several years' service in the Brooklyn Board of Education. We understand that his appointment was warmly recommended by Postmaster HENDRIX, who is an excellent judge of men.

Mr. Swan is a successful business man, who will carry business methods and popular manners into the Department of Taxes and Assessments.

It is admitted, even by leading Republicans in Brooklyn, that the efficiency of the Fire Department of that city has increased under the administration of Commissioner ENNIS. The reappointment of this officer was therefore almost a matter of course.

While Mayor CHAPIN has chosen lovel Democrats to aid him in the work of municipal government, they are men whose high character and personal success in their individual pursuits give promise of an efficient public service during his administration.

Try It Again, Pulitzer.

Recently, in the course of business, THE Sun borrowed \$175,000 to erect a new building and supply itself with improved machinery, and at the same time it spent nearly \$100,000 additional of its earnings upon the various improvements which have made its mechanical department the most complete and workmanlike to be seen in the United States. The \$175,-000 was borrowed on bond and mort gage at the rate of 4 per cent, per annum, which seems to us to have been a proper and businesslike transaction, especially as the property on which the loan was made had been provided from the first as a reserve for such an occasion. It may appear surprising that we should intrude our affairs upon our readers, but we are moved thereto by the publication in the World of yesterday of a true copy of our modest bond and mortgage, and it seems to us as if some acknowledgment of its appearance might be appropriate.

Ordinarily a bond and mortgage document is dry and dusty of perusal, but ours shone in the World with a luscious and succulent quality that surprised and affected us in tensely. It derived its attraction from its isolation, from the fact that it was on a World page, a truth estray, unique and lovely, and holding nothing in common with the general atmosphere of fraud and imposture which PULITZER unavoidably, but consciously, diffuses through that paper. As such it looked so well that PULITZER can find no excuse for not printing it again, say daily for a few weeks.

Besides, as a blow at THE SUN, what a fearful and death-dealing device it is, to be sure!

Since the elevated railroad has lately furnished the occasion for so much not altogether favorable criticism of its management, the spirit of fairness prompts us to say that for the most serious of recent accidents the managers or employees of the road are not in the least

The death of Miss KATHERINE SHEAN was due o her self alone. It appears that the train had been properly started and the gates were properly shut before she tried to get aboard, and the accident to Miss Shean was caused by her own impatience and misjudgment and not by the carelessness or neglect or lack of attention on the part of the guards or gatemen.

On the heights of Abyssinia, almost overlooking Massowah, is Gura, the village where 55,000 Abyssinian warriors are now said to be massed. From Asmara, only a few miles from Gura, the British Peace Commission on its re turn travelled to Massowah, in twenty-four hours. The Italian and Abyssinian forces therefore are within a few hours' march of each other. The native roads up the mountains are little more than rugged footpaths. but King Joun's warriors are increasing the difficulties in the way by felling trees across the roads. The Abyssinians will apparently await on their heights the coming of the enemy. knowing well that the Italians must gain the uplands or quit the country, for the coming hot

season would make fearful havoc among their new recruits along the pestilential coast. The bloody business will probably begin as soon as the Italians attempt to struggle up the passes toward Keren or Asmara.

The Hon, J. BENSON FORAKER seems to be coming up as an important political quantity. Twice elected Governor of Ohio, whew! Would se consent to be the Republican candidate for Vice-President only?

The savage King of the Matabele, in South Africa, has probably never heard of the game laws of civilized nations, but it has occurred to him that something should be done to save the elephants from utter extermination, and he has set about the task. He has issued an order that white men be no longer permitted to hunt the elephant in his large territory. He says the Dutch and English hunters have left very few elephants alive, and that he will not permi the noble animals to be hunted again until they have largely increased in number. The ivory trade south of the Zambesi is no longer profitable, because so few elephants fall in the way of the hunters. No part of Africa is now rich in ivory except the unhunted region of the Congo basin.

A DEMOCRATIC DOCTRINE OF OLD. Tammany Hall Seventy Years Ago in Favo

From the Address of the Society of Tammany, or the Colu bian Order, to its Absent Hembers and the Members of its Several Branches Throughout the United States, Adopted New York, Oct 4, 1819.

As to the inundation of the country by foreign goods, that is a subject of wide magnitude and most radical interest to the American people. A remedy for this evil would be precious as rubies to him who values the institutions of his country and glories in its indigenous greatness. This remedy is one most grateful to the American ear and nearest to the American heart. It is the encouragement of our own manufactures.

One chiestian to manufactures is that they are established and nourished by a prohibition of the articles manufactured from foreign countries, and that the Government will lose some of its impost. Better to encourage a more limited commerce and to an extent just commensurate to our wants after the most magnanimous scope had been given to our domes tic resources. Suppose a material proportion of the articles now imported were the staple manufacture of the country, we would then always know the exact stock on hand and capable of being produced, and graduate our transactions accordingly.

The remedy against our being surcharged with foreign goods and the means of introducing manufactures, is to forbid entirely the importation of articles which can be on any tolerable terms manufactured by ourselves. would not only apply the cure, but, from the identity and stamp of the domestic fabrics, prevent its being evaded by smuggling. Congress should not be afraid of their too-much-favored system of indirect taxation upon the consumer by impost and tonnage. It is often a golden pill to the people and destroys the responsibility of government. This revenue from changes in the objects of commerce would soon find its wonted level.

Her Grandfather's Seat.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mothe ermits me to preside at the lunch table. My grand father lunches with us one day in the week; som aunt, with her grown-up daughters, is present, and a friend of my own, a young lady.

Now, I do not know whom to serve first. Sometimes I think 'tis my grandfather, but then I was taught that ladies should be lielped first. But are four or five ladies, some of whom are but 14 or 15 years old, to be served before grandfather, who is 76! I do not know what is the real etiquette of the affair. Please instructme. ADDY MANN.

Unfortunately for the complete settlement of our correspondent's uncertainty, the delicate question of lunch table precedence when men and women are involved, cannot well be determined by simple reference to a scale of years. If that were possible, it might be safe to say that in order to keep a proper balance between age and sex, giving neithe an undue prominence, a man of 70 should precede a woman of less than 30. After a woman had reached 30 she should submit to the precedence which her ago demands, unless opposed by a man of such ver advanced years that the hostess would be obliged to make a special exception in his favor. And girls of under 15 should be relegated to the class of children and ranked accordingly. Such or something similar, would be the form of law for lunch table procedure, applicable for breakfast and family dinners.

But then comes in the ever-variable nature of the masculine constitution. A couple of other laws exist for estimating age. The first is: "A fellow is as old as he feels." That is for young fellows who aspire to be thought mature. The other is: "A man is as young as he looks." That's for old bucks inclined to be gay. How, then, can a hostess presume to put old fellow of 75, who may look like a youth of 50, in advance of a woman who tries to hide her head under 30 but is 40 if she is a day?

In this case, as in most others, our correspondent must rely upon her own judgment. which the tone of her letter indicates to be good; and whether her grandfather should be helped first or not depends a great deal after all upon the old gentleman's looks. They will influence most strongly the lunch party's natural reverence, and according to them the course of the hostess can be guided safely. It need not be forgotten also that a great man women will not feel hurt at being put down for less than 30.

Bunco in Wall Street.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Hungry Joe Pulitzer must be in desperate straits. He has sent his cappers into Wall street to look for game, which i quite as audacious for him as it would be for his prote type, the other Hungry Joe, to try to swipe an overcos from under the nose of an inspector of Police. Under pretence of printing in his advertising pamphlet a his tory of the Stock Exchange and a review of the finan-cial history of the last year. Politzer is trying to per-suade the bankers and stock brokers to write nest little eulogies upon themselves and pay him for printing them for the edification of the junk shops. Pifty dollars for thirty five lines space is Pulitzer's price for this species of fraud, and the vain-glori ous stock broker, who is first to give up his money, is all lowed to pick out the position he prefers. Of course, Pulitzer's principal argument with the bankers and brokers to induce them to chip their \$50 spiece into his hat is that the World has a daily circulation of 170,000 copies. If this is not obtaining money under false protences, what is? And what a fraud upon the few reac ers the World has left, who next Sunday may have fired at them as news ten or a dozen columns of paid readin matter. Wall street's response to Pulitzer through his glib canvassers ought to be: Move on, Pulitzer! Move on

Are Postage Stamps Too Big ! TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your efforts in behalf of a change in the color of the two-cent postage stamp are most commendable and must

Can you not further serve the public by insisting that all postage stamps he made smaller in size?

Dr. McGlynn and the Pope,

To the Editor of The Sun-So: To Dr. McGiynn's query: "What business has the Pops in politics?" there is this answer: As much business as Dr. McGlynn has in politics.

The July Undertakers and The Sun. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The very interesting, readable, and complimentary reference which your esteemed journal of Sunday last made to the Sunnyside and its labors in undertaking trade journatism entitles you to the sincere thanks of the trade

You say truly that the Sunnyside " is attempting to fil the field in a somewhat different way" from its contemporaries. There is enough of shadow in the lives of our readers without drawing more into their trade literature; hence we endeavor to show the brighter aide of a profession so generally associated with gloom.

We thank you for viewing the mission of the paper in a charitable and friendly spirit, when it would not have been difficult to have reviewed its contents in a causatic and ungenerous manner that interpretation of the spirit of the complete and vertising matter of this or any other trade journal, your article has never to our knowledge been equalled. We shall mail many copies of the Sunday five to the trade throughout the Union, and shall had been equalled. We shall mail may copies of the Sunday five to the trade throughout the Union, and shall had. The Six, shines for all even down to the undertaking trade. We need not say that every member of the wholesale trade has read or will read your article.

New York, Jan. 10.

The Sunwister. the field in a somewhat different way" from its contem

THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS RAID.

Many Projects for Extravagant Structures Introduced into the Fiftieth Congress. WASHINGTON, Jan. 11 .- In the Senate alone during the present session bills appropriating more than \$10,000,000 for public buildings have been introduced, and the House has duplicates of many of these measures, besides bills of its own. In nearly all cases the sum asked for is \$100,000 or more. In several instances, where Post Offices are now rented at less than \$1,000 a year, the Government buildings called for as substitutes are to cost from \$100,000 to \$200,-000. Such appropriations, too, are asked for towns of fewer than 10,000 or even 5,000 inhabitants. Some of these projects have been those that are at least four years old are the bills to erect buildings in Monroe, Opelousas, Charlotte, Ashavilla, Tallahassan Jacksonville Akron. Bay City, and Zanesville. The bill

passed by both Houses last year for the Ashe-

ville public building was vetoed, yet it comes

up unabashed this winter with a demand for

up unabashed this winter with a demand for \$150,000. The town had about 2,600 people in the year 1880, and during the Forty-eight Congress was content to ask for \$75,000, of which amount only two-thirds was then favorably reported by the House committee.

It is noticeable that many other bills are also increased beyond the amounts asked a few years ago, as if their supporters are inclined to put a penalty upon Congress for not having granted them sooner. Thus Charlotte, N. C., has doubled its claim within four years, asking \$200,000 now in place of \$100,000 then, and in face of the fact, also, that only \$75,000 was at that time conceded by the House Committee. The Florida towns have made a like increase of claims, Jacksonville having added \$75,000 to what it formerly demanded and \$125,000 to what it formerly demanded and \$125,000 to what the Senate gave it last year. Zanesville was content with demanding \$100,000 in 1884, but now must have \$150,000, and is said to be naying a present Post Qilico rent of \$800, Akron holds to the modest \$100,000, which it has sought for several years in vain, as does also Victschurz. But Bay City's claim has

but now must have \$150,000, and is said to be paying a present Post Qflice rent of \$800. Akron holds to the modest \$100,000, which it has sought for several years in vain, as does also Vicksburg. But Bay City's claim has grown from \$100,000 to \$250,000 within three years. Pueblo, Col., received a Senate vote of \$100,000 in the last Congress, but since that bill did not become a law, it now asks \$200,000. The moral to be derived from these facts and many others of the same nature is probably, secording to the supporters of public building grabs, that true economy consists in voting the present demands of ten or twenty millions, as the case may be, lest the claims should be doubled in a succeeding Congress.

But the preposterous sums asked for in many instances are not more noticeable than the methods by which favorablo legislation on such projects is secured. Mr. Handall, in his sharp debate with Mr. Stockslager during a former session, showed that the methods employed for taking up and passing public building bills necessarily lead to log-rolling. In the House the rules are sometimes suspended for this purpose, while in the Senate such measures are habitually rushed through in a long series almost without debate. On one occasion during the last Congress an aggregate of \$4.415,000 was voted by the Senate in less than two hours, between thirty and forty bills being called up and passed one after another, almost as fast as the Clerk could read them and the votes could be recorded. On another occasion bills aggregating over a million were rushed through in ten minutes. No one questions that if these measures had been so distributed through in ten minutes. No one questions that if these measures had been so distributed through in ten minutes. No one questions that if these measures had been so distributed through in ten minutes. No one questions that if these measures had been so distributed through in ten minutes as two of or occasion that there could be no combination in voting upon them, such records of extravaga costing \$150,000. The monstrous disproportion between the Government requirements and the amounts voted in such cases have also produced the mest whimsical excuses for the latter, such as their value in educating local taste and their effect as a visible exhibition of national generosity. Several bills have accordingly been introduced this winter for the purpose of putting such expenditures on some unform and rational scale. One of these requires that no Post Office building shall cost more than a sum equal to the aggregate of two years' gross receipts of the office in the town or vilage. But there are difficulties in adopting any such arbitrary rule. What is mainly needed is old-fashioned honesty and sense of personni responsibility on the part of Congressmen and other Government officers. Then we should see more plain, solid, and appropriate structures taking the place of ornate and costly buildings, designed to make way with extravagant appropriations.

THE JURY SAY IT WAS GAS. A Verdict Rendered in the Matter of the Deputy Coroner William Conway was the only witness before Coroner Messemer's expert jury yesterday in its second day's investigation into the cause of the death of Frank C. Plaisted. who was killed at the explosion at the Equitable Gas Light Company's works on the night of Dec. 31 last. Dr. Conway found that death resulted from shock. A juryman asked whether t was true, as some of the newspapers had in timated, that firemen at the fire were overcome by gas, and the juror wanted to have a fireman recalled to testify. H. J. Davidson, representing the Equitable Gas Light Company, protested that the newspapers had nothing to do with it. Coroner Messemer defended the reporters, and the jury went out.

This is their verdict:

"We, the undersigned constituting a Coro-

This is their verdict:

"We, the undersigned, constituting a Coroner's jury, having carefully considered the testimony and the evidence submitted to us, are of the opinion that Frank C. Plaisted came to his death from the effect of an explosion in the Equitable Gas Light Company's works at Fortieth street and First avenue, and we are of the opinion that the explosion was of gas from an accumulation in the cellar of the engine room, but the evidence does not indicate how the accumulation occurred nor how the gas was ignited. We would, however, suggest that proper outlets should be provided for the escape of gas from the space between the floor joists of the engine room floor and the roof of the cellar, we are of the opinion that the debris should have been left undisturbed until proper examination had been made."

The Equitable Gas Light Company has instated ination had been made."

The Equitable Gas Light Company has insisted since the explosion that not gas but dynamite, gun cotton, nitro-glycerine, or gunpowder caused it.

Another Fabrication by the World.

From the Brooklyn Citisen. The World scored another first-class lie yesterday in announcing that an East New York girl returned to life in her coffin. The superlative form to use in describing a mendaclous person is to say that he lies like the World. Nothing can be stronger than that.

A Timely Reminiscence. From the San Francisco Chronicle

When Blaine entered western New York and began that triumphal procession to the great metropoli of that State, Gorman, the Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, said he felt New York slipping on and win back the Democrats who felt that free trade policy would ruln them. It was Randall who partially checked the stampeds which Blaine had created

An Opinion from the West,

The message of Gov. Hill of New York was brief, but this was far from being the only indication of strength. It was in every way an abis document, and full of pertinent suggestions. No Judge for Vice-President,

From the Boston Globe. Cleveland and Lamar is the ticket suggested by the Augusta chronicle. But why drag Justice Lama from a life position at \$10,000 a year to a four-years' joint \$5,000 a year?

An Early Puneral for the Sickly Thing.

From the Union and Advertiser.

It begins to look as if the green stamp would be run to earth in the adjacent future. Henry Waterspout Blair, Senator Henry Waterspeut Blair, Wanders about with his nose in the air, Looking for victims here and there, Scenting destruction everywhere Crying sloud that he will not spare-The but he to do and to dare?

Fire in his mouth and blood in his eye tarting a ruction by and by: Kentucky bourbon and Pittsburgh rye, Wise and beer must be made to fly, Letting a thirsty world go dry.

Think of the war that may be begun Europe's armaments count as cone, Ironciad vessel, and terrible gun. Shot or shell that may weigh a ton, Ravaged coasts, and cities undone This is his kind of milleni-yum yum.

Certain death to the Demon of Rom Death to saloonist, and death to bum, Waterspout Blair, with his fe fo fum, Sounding the trumpet, and beating the drum. Daring the world in arms to come. This is a bloody and frightful plan. Just for one little, meek little man, Putting the whole world under the ban

All of the tribes, from Beersheba to Dan Let it be tried by himself and his clan—

Theirs to get out of it what they can.

PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE.

Views of the Hen, Frank H, Hard of Ohto, From the Chicago Tribune.

Ex-Congressman Frank H. Hurd of Toledo was in a state of considerable jubilation when he arrived yesterday morning at the Grand Pacific. He drew from his pocket a letter which he viewed with triumph. It ran thus:

he viowed with triumph. It ran thus:

REFORM CLUB CHARMERS, 1
105 Pall Mail, Dec. 25, 1887.

My BEAR SHE IN JANUARY, 1885, I asked for subscriptions to a special publication find which the couden Chib Committee decided to raise.

The fund, which smounted to E2,500, is now exhausted. It has enabled the club to circulate about 12,100,000 cleater and a large number of books and pamphles.

In the present unsettled state of public opinion and the resiless entries of proteculonists, who have now largon off all disquies, it would be unwise to relax the exertions of a considerable number of publications are delayed for want of funds. I therefore venture to ask you to contribute to a new publication fund. Yours most trilly.

Thomas BATLEY POTES.

"To this letter," said Mr. Hurd, "I shall reply by sending \$50. But you will see its significance. Instead of 'flooding the United States with British gold,' the Cobden Club is asking us for contributions."

"Will the same letter be sent to other countries?"

"Unquestionably. The club comprise all peoples and all tongues. It is in the widest sense an international club."

"Will it take any part in the coming campaign?"

"Will it take any part in the coming campaign?"
Why should it? We have no need of allies since the President sent his message to Congress. I shall never be able to describe the joy with which I read that message. I was in New York. I was standing at the corner of Wall street and Broadway. I took the paper mechanically from a newsboy, expecting nothing but a repetition of former messages. When my eyes fell on the pages I grew suddenly intent. The great crowd swept by me, but I did not see it. People jostled me, but I did not see it. People jostled me, but I did not feel them. All I felt was that the issue of free trade was now decisively brought before the American people, and that its cause was more than half won."

"How do you suppose the President arrived at his present views?"

"How do you suppose the President arrived at his present views?"
"He came to Washington predisposed to free trade. There he met Carlisle; he met Morrison; he was in dally intercouse with the opponents of protection. He saw his duty clearly shead of him, and when duty beckons to President Cleveland no power on earth can turn him aside from it."

From it." Do you feel certain that he has raised the issue of the coming campaign?"

"Absolutely certain. Congress will do nothing about the matter. We shall enter into the Presidential contest with the issue precisely as it stands to-day. And when the Presidential contest is ended the issue will be definitely closed."

contest is ended the issue will be definitely closed."
"You believe in its success?"
"How can it full? It has never failed. As long ago as 1844, even before the Corn laws were repealed in Engiand, it gave James K. Polk the victory over Henry Clay. It will repeat that triumph whenever it is put to the test, If it could win in 1844, what must be its strength to-day?"
"Who will be the Republican candidate?"
"Blaine."

test. If it could win in 1844, what must be its strength to-day?

"Who will be the Republican candidate?"

"Blaine."

"Will do you think so?"

"His friends want this revenge."

"Will they get it?"

"Thoy will find that the issue of the tariff will settle the fate of the Republican party."

"Forever."

"Can they avoid the issue?"

"No; it is set plainly before them. It is not the issue of free trade in the abstract. It is the American system that is on trial—the system of what Bastiat calls 'reciprocal rapine."

"You steal from me and I steal from you,' The strength of protection lies simply in the combination of plunderers. If they could be attacked singly the end would not be distant. For instance, when the duty on quinine was removed, the quinine men in Philiadelphia began by clamoring. When this clamor subsided they demanded the removal of the tax on chemicals from which quinine was made. They withdrew their support from the protection hobby and were transformed into ardent free traders."

"Why must the Republicans be necessarily high tariff men?"

"Because it is their last stronghold. They have fortified themselves in it since the war. And while in every other civilized country—in every civilized country without exception—the Minister of Finance presents his budget annually, and annual measures are passed to provide for the national expenses, our revenues are regulated by a law passed for a special purpose twenty-five years ago."

"What did you think of Mr. Blaine's letter?"

"I thought it showed an imperiect knowledge of the subject."

"Firstly, in regard to tobacco. Who can pretend that tobacco is a necessary, or pretending the beat ?

"Wherein?"

"Firstly, in regard to tobacco. Who can pretend that tobacco is a necessary, or pretending it, believe it? And of what benefit to the consumer will be the abolition of an internal revenue duty? It is the tariff which regulates prices. The domestic producer raises his price to a point just below the price of imported goods. He will only lower it as the latter comes down. And note that for every dollar which the tariff gives to the Government it takes seven dollars from the consumer."

"Do you agree with Mr. Blaine's views on woollen goods?"

"Do you sayee was woollen goods?"

"Least of all. There is no duty more indefensible than that on wool. There are three classes mainly interested in wool."

"Which are?"

"Which are?"

"Which are?"

"The consumer, the woolen manufacturer, and the sheep owner. The consumer is, of course, interested in getting the product as cheaply as possible. So is the manufacturer. There are about 3,500,000 pounds of wool raised annually in the United States. There is power in the mills for 6,000,000 pounds. How is the difference to be supplied?"

"From abroad?"

"Of course; and, though it is supplied from abroad, there is no competition with native wool. Every country has wool of its own. As weathers differ, so sheep differ. Look at the cross-breeding of Nebraska sheep and Vermont

weathers differ, so sheep differ. Look at the cross-breeding of Nebraska sheep and Vermont sheep. To make good cloth, wool must be mixed, and all the wool that comes here supplies the deficiencies of our own."

"How is there no competition?"

"Because there are three grades of wool—the superfine, or Silesian, the coarse carpet wool, and the combing wool. America furnishes none but the third. The first cannot be grown here. In Silesia a flock receives the attention of an entire family, and its wool has a delicacy of texture unknown to our farmers. And the second grade cannot be grown here. It is grown in Thibet and semi-barbarous countries from long-legged sheep; and unless we lapse into semi-barbarism we can never produce it. Yet both the first grade and the second grade are essential to the making of good

tries from long-legged sheep; and unless we lapse into semi-barbarism we can never produce it. Yet both the first grade and the second grade are essential to the making of good cloth; and so are Australian wools and Spanish wools. How, then, can a duty on these bof use to the manufacturer?"

"How is the sheep owner benefited by reducing the tariff on wool?"

"On enhancing the price. The making of good cloth instead of bad cloth increases the demand. The consumer is pleased; the manufacturer is pleased, and the price rises. This was proved in France under the Second Empire. Wool was almost placed on the free list, and the Minister of Finance reported that prices immediately increased all over the country. They never, I believe went back to the original figure. This, indeed, is God's argument for free trade—that every land produces something which no other land can produce. In the mixture of all lies commercial prosperity."

"What did you think of Sherman's speech?"

"It surpassed Blaine. It out-Heroded Herod. I have no faith in the remedies by which he would reduce the surplus. I believe that they would violate the Constitution. And I loudly applaud what the Tribune says to-day about the Western farmer. No-body suffers more from the present system than the Western farmer, He sells in a free trade market; he burs in a protectionist market. The price of grain is fixed in Liverpool. Suppose your Western farmer goes to Liverpool with 1,000 bushels of grain? He sells them for 1,000 yards of eloth and returns. At the Custom House the officer says: 'Pardon me, but the duty on cloth is 50 per cent.' and he cuts off 500 yards of the farmer's cloth. The purchasing power of the farmer's cloth. The purchasing power of the farmer's bushel of wheat is reduced to the extent of the tax upon the article which he brought back in exchange."

"And you do not share Senator Sherman's views on wages?"

"Most certainly not. The rate of wages depends on three things—the attaillance.

"And you do not shart views of wages de-yelves on wages?"

"Most certainly not. The rate of wages de-pends on three things—the steadiness of the employment, the productive power of the la-bor, and the purchasing power of the wages, Take all these three into consideration, and affirm that the American laborer is no better paid than the European laborer." That's Right-Stick to it. Ballard !- You Evi-

dently Didn't Road the Printed Interview.

dentify Didn't Road the Printed Interview.

To the Editor of the Sun-Sir: In September last the World printed over my signisting an interview with President Cleveland which had been carefully revised by him before publication.

In the editorial columns of the Six of Dec. 24 hast you may be a supported to state that the interview in question were presented to state that the interview in question where the interview had been and that offer and accepted by the President, its language "was changed in the Burds office to suit the views" of Mr. Publicar: These allegations you substantially repeat in your news columns this morning. They are absonited where the state of a number of the interview had been and the view of Mr. Publicar in the World.

On Thursday, Sept. 1. I visited the President, on his invitation, at Oak View. That evening I saked for and obtained his consent to a formal interview for publication in the World. A part of it was made that night at the Whits House, whither we drove from his country place, and the remainder the next afternoon in the President's private office. It was written out by me and taken to Oak View on Sunday afternood, in the president's private office. It was written out by me and taken to Soak View on Sunday afternood, in the president's private office. It was therefore, fully authorized by the President and I aver with perfect confidence that he has never since to any person questioned in the significant particular the accuracy of any word in it as published.

As therefore, the alterations privated in The Sux are been unfounded and unjust. I alt the publication of this exact statement of the facts. Respectivity yours.

New York, Jan. 10

The Office Cat in Journalism. From the Williamstown Courier The reputation of an editor depends as much on what he keeps out of his paper as on what he puts in.

An Enruest Plea. Judge—This man seems sufficiently intelli-gent. You will please take your seat in the box. Juryman—So heliop me, Shudge, I vas not guilty!

THE WALLABOUT MARKETMEN.

They Want the Government to Sell to Each the Land he Occupies.

The Wallabout Marketmen's Association were requested yesterday by Congressman Blisa to forward at once the changes they desired made in his bill for the purchase by the city of Brooklyn of the Government lands at the Wallabout for market purposes. At the meeting called by the association last evening to consider the request, J. E. Smith said: "The bill which the Congressman introduced last year made no provision for our interests;

and he now asks us to forward at once such

changes as we desire made in the bill. He

writes that he will then introduce and push the

changed bill to a conclusion. The old bill pro-vided for the purchase of the lands on the west

side of Washington avenue by the city, and the

sale of the lands on the east side of the avenue

by auction. Now what we want changed in the

bill is the section which refers to the auction

sale of the lands on the east side of Washington

bill is the section which refers to the auction sale of the lands on the ceast side of Washington avenue. Let the city purchase the west side lands, but let those lands on the east side is sold to us direct by the Government. When the appraisers fix a value on the west side lands they can fix a value on the east side lands they can fix a value on the east side lands, and the figures they fix upon will be "washed lands they can fix a value on the east side lands, and the figures they fix upon will be "washed they can fix a value on the east side lands, and the figures they fix upon will be "washed to the city of Brooklyn leased from the United States Government this strip of land on the east side, we hired it and built upon it, and now give to the city over \$30,000 a year fu ren. Now it would not be just to drive us away, and I think we should ask the Congressman to have the land each one now holds by lease sold direct to him by the Government."

Other members of the association agreeing with Mr. Smith and Mr. Grabau. a memorial praying for the change was prepared and ordered forwarded to the Congressman after it had recoived the endorsement of the Mayor and Common Council. The work of Congressman Bliss to secure these lands to Brooklyn for market purposes has been continuous and laborious. In the past three Congresses he struggled for the passage of the measure, but not until the present Congress has there presented itself a better prospect of success. The statute of debt limitation in Brooklyn, which heretofore hampered his work, has been removed by the increased assessed valuation of Brooklyn property, and the objections by the market murposes.

These lands, reaching from the Marine Barracks on the weak was his special work in Congress, the purchase of the lands at the Wallabout for market purposes.

These lands, reaching from the Marine Barracks on the weak to the Marine and Naval Hospital on the east, and from Flushing avenue to the river, were ceded to the United States Government, in 1853 by the city of B

LEAP YEAR CHESTNUTS.

The Correct Thing for Favors. From the Waterbury American. Almanaes are favorite favors for leap year

And Then Go Ahead. From the Binghamton Republican Yes, girls, this is leap year, but it is well to ook before you leap.

Let Her Co. From the Oil City Burnerd.

Leap till the last armed male expires;
Leap for your husbands and for sirest
Leap for a chance to build the fres.
Fair ones throughout the land!

Not to be Caught that Way. From the Bufalo Courier. Say, Frank, this is leap year, will you be, ours?" exclaimed two pretty bright-eyed maid-ons to a young man on the east side the other,

"Of course I will. Certainly; marry both of you," was the response.

Then the maidens were unhappy. They won't get the gid gloves, which would have been the penalty of a refusal. Frank was on.

> From the Washington Critic. From the Washington Critic.
>
> We do not hesitate to st3,
> That 1898;
> Is something very choice and gr6,
> For ladies who desire to m8,
> And when they meet their proper f2,
> You but we don't exagert.
> When boldly we assevers,
> That not a woman will be i8
> In gobbling up the tempting b8.

From the Washington Oritic.

At the Club: Mr. De Dood-Cholly, I've got Cholly-No. Harry? What is it? De Dood-I'm going to organize myself into a joint stock company with 100 shares at \$1,000 a share. Then I'm going to float the stock on the leap year market, and within thirty days I'll have a cool \$100,000 to my credit in bank and can go to Canada till the breach-of-promise storm blows own. Sen? storm blows over. See?
Cholly—Oh. ah. I've done that already, don't you know, and am going to leave on the evering train, bah Jove.

SUNREAMS. -The verdict returned by a Western Coroner's jury in the case of a man who hanged himself by his suspenders to the bed post is said to be: "The deceased came to his death by coming home drunk and mistaking himself for his pants."

-- Chicago newspapers are bragging considerably because, so they say, this State has dropped to the sixth place, judged by her miles of ratiroads, ast because Illinois stands first lows, Kansas, Texas, Pesssylvania, New York, and Ohio follow in order. -It is reported that Peter Herdic, who tea

years ago kept Williamsport, Pa., humming by the ma-nitude of his enterprises, and who failed for lars amounts, is on the high tide of presperity again, and is planning great schemes that will take thousands of do-... The glory of the Indian has passed in the far West. Recently a number of school boys sitending the Central school at Ogden pelted two Indians who were passing with snowballs. The Indians gave chas and captured one little boy, but on his saying that behad

not thrown any snowballs they let him go. The Indian made a complaint, but got no satisfaction. -It is reported from Paris that a jewelled there lost a magnificent pearl, weighing 128 grains and valued at \$2,000. He advertised liberally, and a most afterward a rappicker brought the gem to the store She said that she had three weeks before gathered sp the contents of an ash box in front of the jeweller a saf when she came to sort them over she found the pearl -A newspaper of Matanzas, Cuba, has em bodied in an advertisement of a new brand of citate etter a paragraph, of which this is a translation

world. Sefiora Frances Folsom de Cleveland, the Last of the White House, the idot of 60,000,000 of people the wife of the President of the United States. Ask for the -According to the provisions of the High License bill, no liquor can be sold in places of anom-ment in Philadelphia. The directors of the Academy of Music have just made the discovery, and members

Photographs of the most beautiful woman in the

societies who give balls are very much excited. would be hard work to get a license for a ballroom, and how, and besides, no applications for a liquor license under the new bill will be considered until next March and no license will be granted. -The youngest of the thirty-eight living —The youngest of the University of A. Green & Versailles. She draws a pension but then there an those who question her right, and for this reason. She was born in 1818; the Revolutionary war ended in 175-16 her husband was 21 years old when he was mustered out, he was 50 years old when she was born; and if M married her when she was 18 years old, he was men a man of 74. Butstranger things than that have happened Francis, Edgar Sheprayd is said to have

-Francis Edgar Shepperd is said to have been the first man to use the torpedo in naval warfare He came of an old North Carolina family, and was graduate of the Navai Academy. He resigned when b State second and entered the Confederate navi Twenty five years ago Shepperd, then a Captain in the Confederate many blow up the United States gunbos Cairo with an old fashioned fixed torpedo fastened the bottom of the Mississippi Lieut Commander, no

Rear Admiral Thomas O. Selfridge was in command the Cairo. He and his men were badly shaken up, b no one was killed or seriously injured. Capt Shepped who was lying on the bank watching the explosion made up his mind then and there that that was a cowardly way of fighting, and that he would not have a more of it. He never used another torpedo. He died cently in Georgetown, and was buried near Philadelphia